



Maryland Oyster Restoration Workgroup Meeting Agenda

March 20, 2023 9:30am – 12:30pm

Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/nov-bdzw-sfj

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Agenda

- Welcome, and note that this is a public meeting.
- Quick review of the draft 2022 Annual Update.
- 2022 MD monitoring report: status, timeframe.
 - 2022 update, like 2020 and 2021, will only have biological metrics, not structural metrics.
 - ORP will write methods appendix for biological data collection and analysis, with 1-2 sentences highlighting changes in methods (to go in main body of report)
 - Once data analysis is submitted from ORP to NOAA (approx next week), schedule a meeting to discuss any questions, around 2nd week in April.
 - For next meeting: review/ discuss which reefs need second year class seedings in 2023. ORP will send list soon.
- 2023 planting update. Anything needed from the team to start 2023 work?
 - Hatchery is about to start spawning; first planting- aiming for third week in April
 - Planting vessel bids are in to ORP- working through the process.
 - ORP worked with DNR and NOAA to generate a list of planting sites - we are in agreement and will share with the workgroup. The list follows the priority agreed upon by the workgroup
 - WG please confirm the 2 Manokin substrate sites that are set aside for direct setting study (highlighted in planting list)
- Manokin construction update
 - Construction is ongoing; lots of high winds days.
- Review Manokin reduced seeding density plan- no updates
- Manokin spat efficiency study: under development.
 - DNR and NOAA are working on drafting initial study write up
 - ORP has sent around a study design that they developed and submitted to NFWF, but was not funded

- If we want to utilize this setting season, we need to have a plan soon. Try to have a draft study to workgroup mid-April.
 - Can we get info from VA-- ex: similar high spat set area- maybe Piankatank?
- Marylanders Grow Oysters plantings in Tred and St. Marys-- are these still happening? Are we tracking them annually and adding them into the geodatabase? If so, who is tracking and reporting out at the end of the year?
 - MGO is also in Harris, but it is not part of the 10 trib accounting
 - In St Marys: The annual process for getting MGO oysters into the geodatabase: ORP, and sometimes DNR, gets planting info from the watershed groups; when DNR gets it, it is sent to Paco to add into the geodatabase.
 - In Tred: there is no MGO planting information in the geodatabase on the two small premet sites.
 - Upshot: MGO planting data on 10 Tribs restoration sites is spotty, and differs among tribs. Not an issue for the workgroup, as the focus is the hatchery plantings. When/ if it becomes more steady, we can determine how/ if we want to track it consistently in the geodatabase.
- From Laurinda: 2 sites in the Little Choptank that were never monitored. Also, 2 in the Tred that weren't monitored. These were designated as premet and were missed. Also, the last monitoring report had some errors in one of the charts.
 - Suggest: updating the 2021 monitoring report to reflect applying the revised shell budget results, and fix any errors.- workgroup agreed.
 - Add monitoring years to Tred reefs
 - T68 and T69; add these as 3 year in 2024 and 6 year in 2027.
 - T67, is labeled as 2025; change this to year 3 in 2024 and year 6 in 2027.
 - LC: 2 premet sites were never assigned a monitoring year ;
 - L104 does not have a monitoring year in either the blueprint geodatabase or the monitoring geodatabase. Add 2023 as 3 year and 2026 as six year
 - L062- has a monitoring year in one but not the other. This was monitored in 2017, but missed its 2020 6 year monitoring. Will add 2017 as year 3 and 2023 as year 6.